

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2036

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served September 19, 1979

Special Application of TARA LINES,)
INC., for Authorization to Perform)
Charter Operations Pursuant to)
Contract with U. S. Department of)
Agriculture -- Forest Service)

Case No. CP-79-03

By application filed September 14, 1979, Tara Lines, Inc., seeks authorization to operate pursuant to WMATC Special Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 1 under contract with the United States Department of Agriculture -- Forest Service, transporting employees of the Department of Agriculture between Forest Service facilities at the Rosslyn Plaza Building and the Commonwealth Building, Rosslyn, Va., on the one hand, and, on the other, the Department of Agriculture South Building, Independence Avenue, S. W., Washington, D. C. The proposed transportation is subject to processing under Commission Regulation No. 70, effective July 21, 1979.*/

The tariff tendered by Tara includes a bilateral contract between Tara and the USDA Forest Service dated August 27, 1979, which calls for transportation between Forest Service facilities in Rosslyn, Va., and Washington, D. C., from October 1, 1979, through September 30, 1980. Transportation would be provided in leased 49-passenger vehicles every 30 minutes.

Tara's balance sheet as of August 31, 1979, shows total assets of almost \$5,900 including \$5,300 composed of capital stock and "surplus" equity. Current net operating revenue (August 1979) amounts to approximately \$750 on revenues of \$5,625 from operations not certificated by this Commission. The statement of income and expenses for 1979 (through August) shows a net operating deficit of \$978.65 on operating revenues of \$16,314.60. Projected operating revenues for Tara, including Forest Service shuttle operations, indicate a net operating revenue of \$24,438 for a one-year period, most of which would be derived from the Forest Service contract.

*/ See Order No. 2004, served June 20, 1979.

Tara states that the proposed Forest Service shuttle would integrate well with its existing operations since its equipment is now unproductive between rush hours. The vehicles carry commuters into the District of Columbia from outside the Metropolitan District, and the fixed expenses of insurance and lease payments are already covered by commuter operations. Tara also states that there are no proceedings, either pending or final, in which its fitness to operate is assailed.

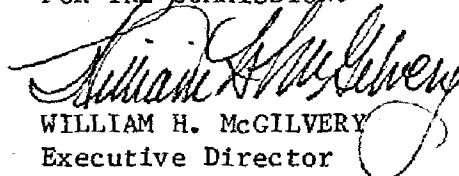
A letter from the Forest Service contracting officer declares that there are approximately 900 Forest Service employees who would be eligible to use the shuttle operation. The service was previously performed by Atwood's Transport Lines, Inc. Before awarding the contract, the Forest Service made a responsibility determination approving Tara to provide this service.

Pursuant to Commission Regulation No. 70-06, notice of this application must be published and opportunity given for the filing of protests. Protests, if any, must be written, sworn and notarized, and must contain all evidence and argument upon which the protestant would rely.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Tara Lines, Inc., publish once, in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District, notice of this application in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission no later than Tuesday, September 25, 1979.
2. That applicant shall file an affidavit of such publication with the Commission no later than Friday, October 5, 1979.
3. That any person desiring to protest this application shall file a notarized protest in conformance with Commission Regulation No. 70-06 at the office of the Commission, Suite 316, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006, no later than Friday, October 5, 1979, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of such protest on counsel for applicant, L. C. Major, Jr., Esquire, Major, Sage and King, Suite 400 Overlook Building, 6121 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria, Va. 22312.

FOR THE COMMISSION:


WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY
Executive Director